# Mickey Leland Environmental Internship Program (MLEIP) Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes April 19, 2012

#### **Members Present**

Leonard Spearman, James DeShaw PhD, Peter Rogers, PhD, Michele Rockelein

#### **Also Present**

Juanita Baldwin, Recruitment and Internship Coordinator, TCEQ

#### **Members Absent**

Debbie Boyle, Brandi Harrison, Debbie Mamula-Hastings, Grant Cottington, L'Oreal Stepney, Melvin Wrenn

### **Convening of Meeting**

In Debbie Boyle's absence, Leonard Spearman called the conference call meeting to order at 12:07 p.m. Minutes for January 20, 2012 meeting were reviewed and approved.

## **Open Discussion**

- ❖ Student Outreach- information sessions conducted with Commissioner Rubinstein and two TCEQ Area Directors at universities to promote program.
- ❖ To date, 378 student applications received and 76 sponsor requests received.
- ❖ Annual Intern Conference-Leonard Spearman reported that conference venue will be the West Pickle Research Building in Austin on Thursday, July 12, 2012.
  - ❖ Interns will be invited for all day event. Advisory Group agreed that mentors will be invited for the morning session only as a cost-savings measure.
  - ❖ Funding for the conference will be provided by TCEQ (facility and audiovisual equipment) and MLEIP Sponsors and MLEIP fund (food and snacks).
  - Current MLEIP account balance is \$ 5,800; account maintained by Debbie Mamula-Hastings, MLEIP Advisory Board member.
  - Proposed conference topics include environmental and legislative issues, in addition to a facilitated group activity, and presentations by TCEQ Commissioners and executive management.
  - ❖ Leonard Spearman reported that Debbie Boyle will be transitioning as MLEIP Advisory Board Chair. Advisory Group voted on Leonard Spearman to move from Vice Chair to Chair.

## Adjourn

The next meeting is scheduled for June 18, 2012. The meeting was adjourned at 12:50 p.m.